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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti and J. Hawkins

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-003-2

Application No.: 09/992,211

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 16, 2001

Examiner: M. Thaler

For: EXPANDABLE CANNULA

#11
Amended
(N.E.)
J. Boyce
10/10/02

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231
BOX AF

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 7, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-entitled application.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 76.

Please amend the identified claims to read as follows. A marked-up copy of these claims showing additions and deletions is attached hereto.

57. (Twice Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath having a passage which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which the passage through said sheath has a relatively small cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of said sheath to an expanded condition in which the passage through said sheath has a relatively large cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath, said sheath having an oval

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PAUL D. BIANCO

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AP/3731

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/992,211	
	Filing Date	11/16/2001	
	First Named Inventor	P. Bonutti	
	Group Art Unit	3731	
	Examiner Name	M. Thaler	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	11	Attorney Docket Number	780-A02-003-2

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
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Firm or Individual name	Paul D. Bianco Reg. No. 43,500
Signature	
Date	10/07/2002

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